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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/266,813	03/12/1999	HIROKO SATOH	P63431USO	6268

7590 05/28/2004

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EXAMINER

ZHOU, SHUBO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1631

DATE MAILED: 05/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER

051804

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

The communication filed on 3/26/04 is still not deemed fully responsive to the prior office action because of the following reasons:

The format for the amendment to the claims in the communication is still not fully in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(c) because (1) the status of claim 1 is identified as "previously amended", line 9 of the claim, however, contains marking for deletion, and (2) claim 4 contains marking "[]" for deletions of multiple words, not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), which requires that "the text of any deleted matter must be shown by strike-through except that double brackets placed before and after the deleted characters may be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters." A copy of the revised 37 CFR 1.121 was attached to the Office letter mailed 2/25/04.

Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action mailed 2/25/04 has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shubo (Joe) Zhou, whose telephone number is 571-272-0724. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Woodward, Ph.D., can be reached on 571-272-0722. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Patent Analyst William Phillips whose telephone number is 571-272-0548, or to the Technical Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shubo (Joe) Zhou, Ph.D.
Patent Examiner